(b) if so, whether India has got the expertise in this field or it will obtain technology from some other country; and

(c) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has informed that they have taken up the task of technology demonstration for tele-connectivity through TNSAT satellites, to provide medical services to remote areas. The concept is to connect hospitals in remote areas with super specialty hospitals, to enable tele-consultations between doctors of different locations about the patients. This is a major step forward in extending the reach and quality of health services to remote areas. At present telemedicine connectivity is provided on INSAT-3B satellite and the experience gained will provide a data base for configuring a Health Satellite.

Setting up of heavy industries in backward districts

4567. PROF. M M AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up heavy industries in the backward districts of the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VTKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) So far as the Department of Heavy Industry is concerned, there is no proposal at present to set up any new public sector units during the Tenth Five Year Plan anywhere in the country.

(c) The Government propose to withdraw from the non-strategic sector.

Disbursement of wage arrears

4568. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any precise guidelines have been set for the disbursement of wage arrears/VRS/terminal benefits for the employees of units which are under disinvestment process;

(b) if so, the percentage of funds disbursed as arrears of wages/VRS/ terminal benefits to employees out of total income accruing from disinvestment of sick PSUs till now;